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League of Red Cross Societies

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The League of Red Cross Societies is an international organization grouping together, for their peace-time activities, the National Societies, of the following countries : ALBANIA, ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, BULGARIA, CANADA, CHILI, CHINA, COLOMBIA COSTA RICA, CUBA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DANZIG, DENMARK, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, EGYPT, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREAT BRITAIN, GREECE, GUATEMALA, HUNGARY, ICELAND, INDIA, ITALY, JAPAN, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, LUXEMBURG, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS, NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, PANAMA, PARAGUAY, PERSIA, PERU, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROUMANIA, SALVADOR, SIAM, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, TURKEY, UNITED STATES, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA, YUGOSLAVIA.

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Financing the League's Work

At the meeting of the Executive Committee of the League, held in Paris at the end of October, to receive the report of the previous six months' work and consider future plans, the Marquis de Lillers, President of the Central Committee of the French Red Cross, said—commenting on a passage in the Secretary General's report: "The grave problem with which philanthropic agencies are always confronted is that, as distress increases in the world, resources available to meet it tend to diminish."

Here, epigrammatically stated, is the explanation of the increased preoccupation with financial questions which has characterized the meetings of the governing bodies of the League for the past three years. Ever since the appearance of the first ominous symptoms foreshadowing the coming world economic crisis, those responsible for the policy of the League have felt it their duty to make a searching review at every meeting of the organization and activities of the League, with a view, not only to intensifying the work on those parts of the programme which were proving most useful, but also to eliminating subsidiary activities and enterprises making for expense which could be saved. It was felt, and rightly felt, that as the maintenance of the League's work has come to mean increased sacrifices for those who contribute to its budget (because the claims on the resources of national Societies for their own national work have grown heavier and heavier), the League Secretariat also had to make a proportionate sacrifice. In order to do this, it has been necessary, during the past three years, to dispense with minor activities of undoubted intrinsic value, and with the services of collaborators whose competence and devotion left nothing to be desired. The aim was to reduce the work and organization of the Secretariat to the essential minimum, so as to concentrate upon those aspects of Red Cross activity which are indisputably essential even in lean years—and the more essential because of the importance which the work of the Red Cross assumes in times of crisis.

That aim has now been fully attained, and at its meeting in October the Executive Committee had the opportunity to review the position, and to record its feeling regarding the future financial status of the organization. This it did in no uncertain terms.

The occasion for the financial debate, which was the outstanding feature of the October meeting, was given by a statement from the Treasurer General. M. Demachy, following the Finance Committee's presentation of the budget for 1934, made a striking comparison between the situation now existing and that which had prevailed in 1930. He pointed out that estimates of expenditure for 1934 represented only 47 per cent of the 1930 expenditure.

The Treasurer General went on to explain that the 1934 budget had been prepared in gold dollars, so as to enable the Secretariat to go forward with future plans without being too gravely handicapped by possible exchange fluctuations.

The other point emphasized by M. Demachy perhaps appeared to make an even stronger impression on the members of the Executive Committee. It was not without surprise that some of them heard that in 1933 only 41 of the 58 member Societies of the League had contributed to its budget. It was clearly the sentiment of the Committee that it was really not satisfactory to find as many as 17 Societies (though it was recognized that some of them were prevented from contributing by reasons outside their control) were making no contribution at all and it also seemed to be felt that some other Societies were probably not contributing as liberally as they could afford to do. Colonel Draudt, in particular, voiced a stirring appeal to the national Societies to make a collective effort to try and assure the future of the League; and Sir Edward Stewart, on behalf of the British Red Cross, said that he felt that every Society, however handicapped it might be by the requirements of its own national programme, should be able to subscribe at least a small sum each year to the League budget.

The Secretary General was instructed to communicate with the national Societies on this subject, and it is to be hoped that the Executive Committee's sentiment in this regard will be widely echoed.

All the speakers were emphatic in their appreciation of the generous attitude taken up by the American Red Cross from the beginning in support of the League and its work, and special emphasis was laid on the fact that the vision of the promoters of the League has already been in a great degree realized. M. Navarro Viola, in supporting the Treasurer General's suggestion that the time has now come to stabilize the budget for some years to come at the 1934 figure, laid special stress on the services which the national Societies outside Europe still expect from the League in the matter of direct co-operation. He urged that it should be realized, not only how great the League's contribution had been to the establishment of the Red Cross movement throughout Latin America, but also that the time was now ripe for still more effective promotional work in co-operation with the national Societies in that part of the world, as well as in the Far East and in the antipodes.

The main emphasis throughout the debate was, however, laid on the fact that stabilization had not appeared possible until the Executive Committee should be in a position to certify to the Red Cross world that the League organization had been reduced to the minimum compatible with effective and permanent work—and that the Committee was now in a position to commit itself to that statement without reserve.

1934 will be the 15th year of the League's existence. The year opens with a heavily charged programme. The outstanding event of the year will be the XVth International Red Cross Conference in Tokyo, in the preparations for which the Secretariat has given active co-operation from the beginning. In assuring the success of this Conference, the League will be expected to play an essential rôle. Because of

the importance of the Tokyo meeting the intensification of promotional activities in South America will attain their peak only in the following year—1935—when it is to be hoped that the Third Pan-American Red Cross Conference will be able to meet and special efforts will be made to exploit that conference as a stimulus to Red Cross activity throughout the New World. There are new Red Cross Societies in process of formation, and consequently in need of the co-operation of the League, in Iraq, Haïti and Nicaragua. The Junior Red Cross, which has taken so firm a hold on the imagination of the public and won itself so highly respected a place in the educational world, depends largely for its vitality upon the international leadership which it obtains through the League. Disaster relief preparedness, which for some years past has been a growing interest for all national Red Cross Societies, has come into special prominence owing to the foundation this year of the International Relief Union, for whose Central and Permanent Services the League has accepted joint responsibility with the International Red Cross Committee. Part of the facilities hitherto provided by the League in the nursing field will henceforth be carried by the Florence Nightingale International Foundation—but that Foundation will not come into active existence until next year, and for some time to come, it will undoubtedly rely largely upon the collaboration of the League, as well as on that of the International Council of Nurses.

These are only some of the principal points in the programme of work which lies before the League in the immediate future. There was no voice raised in the Executive Committee to suggest that any part of that programme could be considered secondary by any national Red Cross Society in the world. It may consequently be said, with assurance, that the increased support for which the Executive Committee appeals to national Societies will certainly be forthcoming. The national Societies will undoubtedly endorse, as cordially as did the members of the Executive Committee, Colonel Draudt's declaration of faith. "I am sure", he said, "that this appeal will be heard, not only because the national Societies as a whole deeply appreciate the services rendered by the League but also because in these difficult times the Red Cross, thanks to the joint action of the International Committee and the League, has revealed itself as a veritable link between nations, enabling the peoples, in the field of humanitarian work, to undertake practical co-operation based upon a single idea and a veritable community of thought".

Ernest J. Swift

Prince Tokugawa in Paris.

The members of the Executive Committee of the League of Red Cross Societies had the privilege of welcoming Prince Tokugawa, President of the Japanese Red Cross, at their meeting on October 30th last.

The Prince followed the labours of the Committee very attentively, and was particularly interested in the debate on the XVth International Red Cross Conference. He warmly urged all those present to make a special effort to attend the Conference next October in Tokyo, where he assured them they would find not only a cordial reception from the Japanese Red Cross but an illimitable field of interesting experience. At a time when so many of the nations are divided by political and economic differences, he said, it is all the more essential that the Red Cross should set the world an example by showing a united front. In these circumstances, he hoped that all the national Societies, without exception, would join together in making an outstanding success of the Tokyo Conference.

The same evening, Prince Tokugawa held a reception at the Interallied Club in Paris which was attended by an imposing number of Red Cross personalities.

Mr. Ernest J. Swift, Secretary-General of the League, gave a lunch in honour of the Prince on October 31st, and a reception was arranged in his honour by the Marquis de Lillers, President of the French Red Cross, to which high officials of the French Society and all the members of the Executive Committee were invited.

Prince Tokugawa left Paris on November 1st.

Message for the Juniors of Japan.

While in Paris, Prince Tokugawa received a delegation of Junior Red Cross members from different schools of the capital. A little girl delegate asked Prince Tokugawa a number of questions concerning the Junior Red Cross in Japan and the International Red Cross Conference to be held next year in Tokyo.

At the close of the interview, the following message was handed to the distinguished visitor :

To our Friends, the Juniors of Japan:

We, Juniors of Paris, are very much honoured to meet the most Honourable President of the Red Cross of Japan, and to welcome him on behalf of the Juniors of France.

We shall be very grateful to him for conveying to you our brotherly feeling and our deep admiration for the exquisite work you are sending us in your portfolios.

We shall think of you at the time of the XVth Congress of the Red Cross, as you surely will do your best to make it a success. And this success will mean also ours, in some way, as we Juniors are like members of a large family, united by the sincerest friendship.

We take pleasure in assuring you of ours, and beg once more your Honourable President to convey our greetings to you. We are most proud of having the privilege of seeing him and wishing a long and prosperous life to the Junior Red Cross of Japan and of the world.

(Juniors delegated by the French Junior Red Cross.)

Juniors Growing Up.

Under this title, the British Red Cross Quarterly for October, 1933, gives a number of examples of co-operation between the Senior Society and the Junior Links, and demonstrates how the Junior Red Cross is serving as a "nursery" for the adult members of tomorrow. One Link leader reports: "I find that, though we lose a good many as they get older, yet a number offer for training at one hospital or the other, and they all say that they got the idea of being nurses from the Junior Red Cross classes"

From the various examples quoted, the article draws the following conclusions:

At the present time the value of such encouragement to share the social services of the Red Cross is of especial value to those beyond the primary school age. The lack of employment for young people is one of the most serious evils of the present time. It deprives boys and girls of the discipline which work provides in subordinating ourselves to some other end than our own immediate will or pleasure, and of effort directed to an end not dependent on our choice, from which the sense of subordination to the community arises and makes decent citizens of us.

Amusement, occupation, training even, apart from co-ordinated work, are deficient in this natural social discipline; and the value of working for the Red Cross lies not a little in the fact that it is social in the best sense, because its object is the service of the community as a whole, without sectarianism or bias.

The co-operation of the Red Cross with organizations for adolescents in old scholars' associations, in clubs, in occupational centres, can exert this influence. Classes for First Aid, Home Nursing and Hygiene are welcome, but their value is greatly increased where they are taken as part of a Junior programme that includes some form of service to others.

The headmistress of a very poor school, conspicuous for the enterprise of its Juniors in acts of service, once remarked: 'There has been nothing in the education of these children like the belief that they can do something for others even poorer than themselves'. Encouragement in this belief in the reality of our effective neighbourliness is very much needed to help to weld the growing boy and girl into our social life, and to correct the unsocial influences of idleness and want of definite obligation.

The maintenance of Junior enthusiasm till it can be developed into adult activity depends so much on the right kind of encouragement being given to young people by their elders. The Junior Red Cross is not a forcing house but a means of encouraging this sense of helpfulness, especially in matters of health. When the activities of Junior members can be allied with those of the Seniors, the proper pride of belonging to an honourable community working for a worthy end is in itself an encouragement to further effort.

The Mexican Hurricane.

Immediately on receiving the joint appeal of the International Red Cross Committee and the League of Red Cross Societies in favour of the Tampico hurricane sufferers, the Costa-Rican Red Cross called an extraordinary meeting of its National Comittee and opened a relief subscription. The Society headed the list with a gift of 100 colons.

The Peruvian and Uruguayan Red Cross Societies have sent donations of $200 and 20 Pesos respectively direct to Mexico.

China Floods.

According to reports from official sources, the flood situation in China resulting from the overflow of the Yellow River is even graver than was at first supposed.

The American Consul at Tsinanfu states : "The present disaster is unusual in its extent and gravity and there exists a real need for relief funds".

In addition to Northern Honan and Southern Hopei, large areas in Western and Southwestern Shantung have been submerged, and two million persons are affected. The Chinese Government has allotted one and a half million Chinese dollars for general relief purposes and three hundred thousand dollars for health work. Additional funds have been raised locally.

Experts report that the outstanding feature of the situation is not so much the extent and intensity of physical suffering as the enormous destruction and loss of property, over three thousand villages having been wiped out. A state of widespread famine is to be anticipated with the coming of winter and until new crops are available.

ERRATUM

In a note published in the October number of the Bulletin, based on a telegram received from Washington, it was inadvertently stated that the American Red Cross had contributed a sum of $50,000 (silver) specifically for the relief of the sufferers from the Yellow River floods. This note should have read that the sum was made available to the American Minister to China to be used at his discretion for disaster relief work in accordance with requirements, and had not yet been allocated.

Hurricane in Cuba.

One of the greatest problems confronting relief organizations is the difficulty of obtaining prompt and accurate information concerning disasters at the time of their occurrence. The first reports are almost invariably exaggerated, and some time elapses before the different scraps of information can be fitted together and made to form a composite and reliable picture of the true situation.

The hurricane which devastated parts of Cuba last September was no exception to this rule. Only now are full details available as to the actual extent of the disaster. A trustworthy American expert reports that some 30,000 persons were more or less gravely affected by the catastrophe; 5,000 of these were without shelter of any description, while 5,000 more were living amid the ruins of their homes.

Generous aid was forthcoming from many sources, and the Cuban Red Cross has been dealing with the situation to the best of its ability. By the end of September, the following gifts had been received:

Cuban Government	$ 50,000
American Red Cross	$ 10,000
Irénée Dupont	$ 30,000
Havana Railway Union	$ 10,000
Miscellaneous sources	$ 4,000

The American Red Cross has also sent a consignment of 15,000 quinine tablets for use in combating epidemics.

A New Polish Film.

For the third month in succession, the BULLETIN is able to announce a new film release by a national Red Cross Society. Last month, it was Japan; the month before that, the United States. Now the Polish Red Cross has produced a new film. This is not its first venture into the realm of cinematography, for another admirable film: "Love and Duty" was produced not long ago by that enterprising Society.

Its latest achievement is a propaganda film entitled "In Pace et in Bello—Caritas" (Charity in Peace and in War), illustrating the efforts of the Polish Red Cross in connexion with accident first aid, disaster relief, the protection of civilians against chemical warfare, and public health nursing. There is also a section showing how the Red Cross in Poland is combating dirt.

This film is produced with the same care and attention to detail as its predecessor. It has already been exhibited in Warsaw, where it aroused considerable interest. The length of the film is 1,027 metres.

Red Cross of Russians in Exile.

The old Russian Red Cross of the pre-Revolutionary days has become, by force of circumstances, an international organization with ramifications in nineteen countries, having as object the relief of sick, disabled and destitute Russian refugees. It is divided up into twenty-five local committees and maintains the following institutions:

Belgium . . .	A home for the aged.
Czechoslovakia	A dispensary and a dental clinic (in Prague).
Bulgaria . . .	Two hospitals (in Sofia and Schipka).
	Five dispensaries (2 in Sofia, one each in Varna, Plovdiv, and Schipka).
	A dental clinic, a store depôt and a work-room (in Sofia).
Finland . . .	A dispensary (at Viborg).
France	A tuberculosis sanatorium (at Paulhaguet).
	Three dispensaries (in Paris, Lyons and Nice).
	Three rest homes (at Chelles, Mentone and Nice).
	A boy's home (at Verrières).
	A day nursery and crêche (at Billancourt).
Germany . . .	A dispensary (in Berlin).
Great Britain .	A refuge (in London).
Greece. . . .	A refuge and an employment agency (in Athens).
Italy.	A workroom and a canteen (in Rome).
Yugoslavia. .	A home for children and a Nurses' Club (in Beograd).
	A hospital (at Pantchevo).
	Nine dispensaries, two dental clinics and a tuberculosis sanatorium (at Wurberg).
	A refuge for adults (at Igalo).

Refugee Relief.

In a number of countries the continuance of the work of the Nansen International Office for Refugees is being arranged with the direct co-operation of the Red Cross. In Finland, a member of the Central Committee of the Finnish Red Cross, Major Gripenberg, who represents this Society on the Board of Governors of the League, was originally appointed in a personal capacity as permanent delegate of the Nansen Office in Finland. When Major Gripenberg is absent, he has arranged that Colonel Taucher, Secretary General of the Finnish Red Cross, should act in his place.

It has recently been intimated to the Nansen Office that in Latvia and Lithuania the Red Cross would be prepared to co-operate in a similar fashion in the work of the Office and an assurance to the same effect has been given, with the sanction of the Polish Government, by Mademoiselle Paszkowska, Secretary General of the Polish Red Cross.

Raising Funds through Sweepstakes.

The Luxemburg Red Cross has been authorized by the Government of the Grand-Duchy to organize sweepstakes on the principal Continental racing events.

The first sweepstake will be held in connexion with the Prix du Président de la Republic, to be run at Auteuil next Easter, and the total subscription has been limited to 84 million Belgian francs.

The Society has generously decided to share the proceeds with other philanthropic associations in France and Belgium, and a special committee has been formed to supervise the operations. This committee is composed of representatives of the National Association of Belgian War-Disabled, the French League of Disfigured ex-Soldiers, the French Union of War Blinded, and the Luxemburg Red Cross.

Floods in Albania.

On October 30th last, following torrential rains in the mountains surrounding the Albanian capital, floods invaded the town of Tirana, drowning 28 of the inhabitants, injuring ten others, and carrying away 22 habitations.

The material damage is estimated to be in the neighbourhood of 100,000 gold francs.

A relief committee was promptly set up to deal with the most urgent needs of the flood sufferers.

As soon as news of the disaster reached the outside world, the Yugoslav Red Cross forwarded a donation of 10,000 dinars to its sister Society in Albania.

Two New Books for Juniors.

The Junior Red Cross Section of Hungary has issued two fine manuals to facilitate the organization of group activities. The first is designed to assist group leaders and teachers in arranging programmes for Junior Red Cross work-afternoons. The second is in the form of a treatise on "School Gardens", and describes the origin and development of tree-planting, with practical advice and technical directions for the laying out of school gardens.

ARGENTINA

School Co-operatives

The effects of the present economic crisis have been felt with peculiar intensity in certain provinces of the hinterland of the Argentine Republic. The worst sufferers are the children who, under-nourished and lacking warm clothing and adequate foot-wear to protect them from the rigours of winter, are unable to attend school. Each year, the Red Cross does all in its power to accede to the teacher's requests for aid on behalf of their pupils.

A short time ago, a meeting was called of all the chairmen of school co-operatives in the capital to consider the best methods of alleviating the distress of needy school-children in the provinces. The Red Cross immediately offered its collaboration.

The upshot of this meeting was a scheme which has already yielded remarkable results. Over fifty co-operative societies in Buenos-Aires have undertaken to provide garments and footwear for as many schools in the provinces, and the Red Cross has accepted the mission of distributing these gifts among the children. The majority of the railways are allowing heavy reductions in freight charges on the packages sent and certain of them have agreed to carry the material free of charge.

AUSTRALIA

Membership Campaign

A state-wide membership drive was opened by the New South Wales branch of the Australian Red Cross on September 8th for a period of one month. It was organized on the lines of the Roll Call conducted every year by the American Red Cross, and all the notabilities of Sydney were persuaded to make appeals over the air for membership in the Red Cross.

The different broadcasting stations co-operated most generously in the campaign by allotting all the time needed and by making known the results after the Drive was ended.

The manifestation was officially launched by Lady Isaacs, President of the Australian Red Cross Society.

Among the speakers at the inauguration ceremony were the Premier of New South Wales, the Lord Mayor of Sydney and the Lady Mayoress. Members of the Junior Red Cross formed a guard of honour for Lady Isaacs on her arrival, while uniformed members of women's Voluntary Aid Detachments acted as ushers. A number of leading Australian artistes volunteered their services for the musical programme arranged in connexion with this ceremony. The entire proceedings were broadcast.

On the first day of the Drive, letters were forwarded to business houses not already subscribers inviting them to join the ''Firms'' Membership at one guinea per annum.

Advantage was taken of the campaign to draw special attention to the international aspects of Red Cross work.

Propaganda by Radio

One of the principal broadcasting stations in Australia has placed at the disposal of the Red Cross a free ten-minute radio session every Thursday evening. Another station has offered the same facilities for alternate Friday evenings.

''Links of Service''

A recent issue of the BULLETIN announced the inauguration, by the Victoria Division of the Australian Red Cross, of a scheme for enabling girls and boys leaving school to continue their Red Cross activities until they become old enough to join the senior organization. To this scheme was given the name of ''Red Cross Links of Service''.

The number of Links now established has reached 27, forming an almost continuous chain of Red Cross service. The constitution of two rural Links will, it is anticipated, lead to the establishment of others. Heartening co-operation is being given by the members, and also by many of the parents, whose active interest in the Links emphasizes the fact that the movement is really proving itself to be a link between the Junior and Senior Red Cross workers.

The majority of the Links of Service have as object the provision of convalescent treatment and other measures of relief for children suffering from the effects of infantile paralysis; but it is open to each Link to choose the object for which its members shall work. In some instances their efforts are concentrated on local needs, while other groups are assisting some cause in which they are particularly interested.

BELGIUM

New Junior Calendar

The Belgian Junior Red Cross classroom calendar for the scholastic year 1933/34 is in the form of a poster, depicting fifteen good resolutions illustrated by amusing sketches. These are classified under three headings: health, service and international goodwill. Copies of the calendar have been sent by the League Secretariat to the Junior sections of all national Societies.

BRITISH EMPIRE

Southern Rhodesia

The recently-formed branch of the British Red Cross Society in Southern Rhodesia is making rapid progress. The popularity of the weekly lectures given by local doctors in Salisbury is testified to by the constantly increasing attendances, while candidates for the weekly classes for women and girls are becoming more and more numerous. There has been an enthusiastic response to the appeal for members to form Voluntary Aid Detachments.

An organizing secretary for the Junior Branch has now been appointed and a first Link of 200 girls registered.

BULGARIA

School of Nursing

The School Committee met regularly throughout the year 1932/33 and studied all questions relating to Nursing. The decisions taken were submitted to the Central Committee and were carried into effect by the Direction of the School. The administration and teaching staff consists of a directress, an assistant directress, three instructresses, one secretary and a housekeeper. During the year there were 78 student nurses in the School. Twenty-one completed their studies.

Since September 1931, the School has been placed on a fee-paying basis. During the first three months the students pay 800 levas a month. After the preliminary period is completed they pay 600 levas a month until the completion of their training.

Those who entered before September 1930 will continue to have their training free; of the 44 who entered after that date, 21 have obtained scholarships, either from the Red Cross or other organizations.

The curriculum has been increased from 449 hours to 680 hours and the following subjects have been added:

dental hygiene (5 hours);
physical training (40 hours);
hospital and training school administration (15 hours);
Bulgarian language (20 hours);
Latin (10 hours).

Under the patronage of the Ladies' Committee, a choir has been formed, composed of student nurses.

The Community of the Holy Trinity now has 384 members. Red Cross nurses forming this community are entitled to use the Nurses' Home when in residence in Sofia. There are now 15 pensioned nurses in permanent residence in the Home.

CHILI

A Year of Progress

The annual report presented at the last general assembly of the Chilian Red Cross shows that, despite the crisis, the Society has maintained its principal activities intact, and has even made progress. Nine new local committees were formed in the course of 1932, bringing the total number to 85.

The principal activities of the Society centre round the problem of child welfare, and the Red Cross preventoria at San José de Maipo, Papudo and El Belloto are rendering admirable services. The El Belloto institution has recently been considerably enlarged and now comprises an active public health nursing service.

The 48 dental clinics maintained by the Red Cross treated 54,121 children last year at a cost of 140,913 Pesos.

The Junior Red Cross is constantly growing, and now has a membership of 52,343 divided into 788 groups. An anti-tuberculosis service is installed at Junior Red Cross headquarters with the most up-to-date equipment (X-Rays, heliotherapy, etc.)

An extensive programme of health lectures, illustrated by films, was arranged during 1932.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Nursing News

The presentation of Red Cross emblems to the newly graduated nurses of the Czechoslovak State Nursing School (formerly administered by the Red Cross) took place on September 30th. This ceremony is organized annually by the Czechoslovak Red Cross and the National Trained Nurses' Association. Addresses were given by Dr. Sulc, Mlle Tobolarova, Directress of the Nursing School, and Mlle Dolenska, President of the Trained Nurses' Association. The badges were presented by Mme Syllabova. The musical programme, comprising works by Smetana and Dvorak, was provided by the well-known violinist, Dr. Horejsi.

On October 1st a new Home for Visiting Nurses was opened at Red Cross Headquarters in Prague and an hourly visiting nurse service for families able to pay has been organized. Three trained nurses are already employed for this purpose. The new service is under the direction of Mlle Mankova, who for several years has directed the Public Health Nursing Service in the City of Prague.

Courses for "Voluntary Aids" have been organized in all four divisions of the Czechoslovak Red Cross and about forty courses are in preparation, seven of which are fully established. The Courses are given in the Czech, Slovak and Magyar tongues according to local needs. The Courses in Bohemia are under the direction of Mlle Picova.

On September 1st the first School of Nursing was opened in Turc St. Martin with twenty-four student nurses enrolled in the preliminary course. Mlle Zidova has been appointed instructor.

A three days' study meeting was held in Slovakia in August for the Public Health Nursing Staff of the Red Cross Child Health Centres. Forty-four nurses attended. Emphasis was laid upon pre-natal care.

ESTONIA

Junior Congress

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of its foundation, the Junior Section of the Estonian Red Cross organized, on October 29th and 30th last, a series of manifestations in Tallinn. The programme comprised a congress and an exhibition, for which the League Secretariat sent a collection of propaganda literature and charts depicting the different phases of Junior Red Cross activity. Accompanying this material was a message from the Secretary-General of the League, worded as follows:

On this tenth anniversary of the Estonian Junior Red Cross, it is a genuine satisfaction for the League of Red Cross Societies to address its warmest congratulations to those who, by their devotion and perseverance, have made it possible to attain the remarkable degree of development which is yours today.

The idea of celebrating this anniversary by a congress of group leaders is a particularly happy one.

Please accept our sincerest wishes for the success of your meeting which, we are convinced, will be of the utmost value not only for the work which you are performing today but also for that of tomorrow. You may look with confidence to the future, for your country is fortunate in possessing to a rare degree the three essential elements for success; viz., a keen

and conscientious Junior Red Cross staff, a teaching corps imbued with a lofty conception of its duties and responsibilities, and finally a Junior membership which has impressed all those who have had the good fortune to visit Estonia by its outstanding qualities of head and heart.

It is a matter of keen regret to us that we cannot be in your midst on this happy occasion, but rest assured that in thought we are one with you in a same ideal and that we join our voices to yours in proclaiming:

Long live the Junior Red Cross of Estonia!

FRANCE

Courses for Juniors

With the opening of the scholastic year 1933/34, the French Junior Red Cross has resumed its courses in first aid for the pupils of secondary schools and colleges in the Paris area.

Interschool Correspondence

The albums prepared by French Juniors for their comrades in other lands are always the object of infinite care and constitute one of the great events of school life. One section, at Wasigny (Ardennes), is in correspondence with eleven foreign sections and last term prepared no fewer than 17 albums. Some of these were shown at the exhibition of school work at Charleville a few months ago and were awarded the highest recompense for rural schools, viz., the Diploma of the Silver Medal. In view of this fact, the regional inspector caused the albums to be exhibited at the school inaugurated by the President of the Republic at Mezières on July 16th.

The Juniors of a village in the Orne Department are allowed to take home the albums received from abroad to show to their relatives and friends. By the time the turn of the fortieth and last Junior has arrived, the whole village has become acquainted with the customs and costumes of the land from which the album emanates.

GREAT BRITAIN

Gen. Champain's Successor

The League Secretariat has been notified of the appointment of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Harold Fawcus, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Director of Medical Service at the War Office, as Secretary-General of the British Red Cross Society in succession to Brig.-Gen. H. B. Champain, whose death was announced last month.

Training Camps

Three branches of the British Red Cross Society held training camps for their members during the past summer. The first, in order of date, was the annual V.A.D. Camp of the Scottish Branch in the grounds of Scone Palace (an ancient residence of the Kings of Scotland) from July 8th to 24th.

From 23 counties of Scotland, nine of England and four of Wales, officers and members of Voluntary Aid Detachments to the number of 291 assembled at Perth for the Camp, which has now been held for ten consecutive years.

Instruction was given in First Aid, Home Nursing (elementary and advanced) and Cookery, and in Squad, Stretcher and Gas Mask Drill. Owing to the difficulty experienced by some County Branches in procuring qualified lecturers to conduct classes in cookery, a special effort was made to provide an opportunity for members attending the Camp to qualify in invalid and camp cookery. The extent to which members availed themselves of this advantage can be judged from the fact that no fewer than 140 took one or both courses.

The annual camp of the Surrey Branch, held at Worthing from August 4th to 13th, was restricted to members of the men's detachments, who were given instruction in First Aid in the Field, Squad, Stretcher and Ambulance Drill, Hospital Improvisation, Nursing, Roller Bandaging, and Training as Section Leaders. A dressing-station was opened for the benefit of visitors to the holiday camp close by, and over thirty cases were treated.

The annual men's training camp, organized by the Gloucestershire Branch, was held at East Cowes (Isle of Wight) from August 6th to 13th. Sixteen detachments from other counties attended. The main object of the camp was to provide training in subjects which the stress of ordinary Detachment work forces into the background, and included mass drill with and without stretchers, anti-gas training, improvisation, hygiene and sanitation, and physical culture.

Camp for Blind Children

Last August, the County of London Branch of the British Red Cross Society arranged for sixty blind London children to spend a fortnight in the Isle of Wight. The little holiday-makers were escorted from London and back again by officers and members of the branch. H.R.H. Princess Beatrice, President of the Isle of Wight Branch, visited the camp on August 23rd and expressed her satisfaction with all the arrangements made for the children's welfare.

First Aid on a Beach

Under the title of "Experiences and Observations on a Scottish Beach", the October issue of the British Red Cross Quarterly Review gives an amusing account of the reception accorded to a beach first-aid post set up by a Red Cross detachment in Berwick.

The most assiduous visitors to the post were children, and the cases dealt with ranged from grazed knees, stubbed toes, barked shins and dog bites to punctured footballs. The most frequent casualties were cut feet from broken glass.

The fact that most deeply impressed the Red Cross workers was that no parent ever brought a child to be treated; the children came of their own accord and seemed fully alive to the dangers of open wounds and the virtues of iodine. When one of the small patients volunteered: "We think it is awfully nice of you to come here and look after us like this", the guardians of the post felt that this was ample reward for their efforts.

In a footnote to the article, the Editor remarks: "A Junior Link reports that its members make a practice of going daily in couples during the summer holidays to pick up broken glass on the beach."

HUNGARY

Red Cross for Students

In an effort to help bridge the gap between Junior and Senior membership, the Hungarian Red Cross founded, some months ago, a Students' Section for young people leaving secondary schools. This was formed at the request of the ex-Juniors themselves.

Up to the present, the members of the Student's Section have found their most useful sphere of activity in the direction of social service. They pay regular visits to the occupants of the almshouses for the aged poor maintained jointly by the Red Cross, the Municipality of Budapest and the Church Committees, bringing them sympathy and cheer. They are also aiding the Red Cross in the census of persons using public dormitories which it is undertaking on behalf of the Budapest Municipality. Through this work, they have gained a valuable insight into present-day social conditions and have seen for themselves how great is the distress which Red Cross and other charitable agencies are called upon to alleviate.

A highly successful course of lectures was recently arranged by the Section for the benefit of its members and for any other persons who cared to attend. The lectures covered such subjects of general interest as the history of the Red Cross, and the ethical and social status of the Red Cross in national and international law. Further courses, directed by eminent sociologists and scientists, are being planned for the near future.

The fact that membership in the new section is continually growing seems to denote that former Juniors genuinely felt the need of an organization which would enable them to work together for the advancement of their humanitarian aims and ideals.

JAPAN

Recent Developments

The last two issues of HAKUAI, the monthly publication of the Japanese Red Cross, mention a number of interesting initiatives taken by the Society in the course of the last few months.

An account is given of the inauguration of the new Red Cross dispensary at Harbin (Manchukuo), and of the laying of the foundation stone of a new hospital now being constructed by the Kyoto Red Cross branch. The formation of new Red Cross committees at Lioyang, Higashimuro and Chin-Chow is also announced.

An idea of the extensive field covered by the peace-time programme of the Japanese Red Cross may be gained from the references to an exhibition on matrimonial hygiene organized by the Society, an investigation into health conditions among paupers carried out by the Osaka Red Cross committee, the sending of Red Cross exhibits to the Manchukuo Exhibition, the institution of dental courses, the organization of an entertainment with moving pictures for the patients of a sanatorium at Sengokubara, a programme of sight-saving activities, including the maintenance of a mobile ohpthalmic clinic, by the Nagasaki committee, and a Health Week organized by the Ishikawa committee.

A medical research meeting is held each month at the Central Maternity Hospital of the Red Cross in Tokyo.

LUXEMBURG

An Active Society

The Red Cross family includes a number of small Societies whose modesty conceals a remarkable degree of development. One of the most characteristic of these is the Red Cross Society of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg which, during the last few years, has so far extended its programme that it now covers almost every branch of Red Cross activity.

Each year it organizes an extremely energetic propaganda and membership campaign, and broadcasts weekly health talks from the powerful new Luxemburg station. It sends selected members of its public health nursing service abroad to complete their professional training, and seeks out persons suffering from cancer so that they can be transferred to Strassburg for treatment.

A Red Cross ante-natal centre and a mental hygiene clinic have been established in the capital, and other child welfare organizations are functioning at Esch-sur-Alzette and Redange.

Social service is extended to persons in temporary straits, and arrangements have been made for rendering assistance to German refugees.

The Luxemburg Red Cross is now erecting, near the capital, a maternity home to which will be annexed a school for midwives.

Cordial co-operative relations are maintained with other voluntary organizations, such as the Anti-Tuberculosis League, the Association of Holiday Camps, the Temperance League and the Society for Public and Scholastic Hygiene.

POLAND

Junior Courses in First Aid

During the academic year 1932/33, the Warsaw committee of the Polish Red Cross arranged twenty-four first-aid courses for Juniors, with a total attendance of 800. The lectures were given by medical students under the direction of a physician. In addition to these, eighty Junior circles in the provinces arranged courses for their members.

During the same period, 845 Junior circles organized health talks in their schools, and assumed responsibility for the cleanliness of their class-rooms. Some 200 circles possess their own first-aid cabinet, while others supervise the school pharmacy, rendering aid not only to the scholars but also to the villagers when necessary. The members of twelve circles, after taking courses in first aid, banded themselves into first-aid detachments.

There are now 1,290 Junior circles in Poland, with a total membership of 100,000.

UNITED STATES

Texas Hurricane

When, on the night of September 3rd, a violent hurricane struck the Texas Gulf coast, the American Red Cross was already ministering to the relief needs of three other areas devastated by hurricanes. Nevertheless, the emergency did not find the Red Cross unprepared; the local chapters had, in fact, been mobilized days beforehand in anticipation of

what was to come, and, within an hour or so of the end of the storm, ten Red Cross relief specialists were rushing by train to the scene of the disaster, while national headquarters in Washington were keeping in touch with the situation by telephone and wire.

At a conference on September 6th, in the office of the Federal Relief Administrator in Washington, the Red Cross officials present stated that their organization would assume full responsibility for meeting the emergency relief needs, while the Administrator promised the co-operation of the federal relief organization with the Red Cross in Texas.

The first message to reach the outside world from Brownsville—where the cyclone attained its maximum of violence—was a telegram from the chairman of the local Red Cross chapter to national headquarters in Washington, which arrived on Tuesday night, September 5th.

A later message stated that five thousand persons in Brownsville alone had been affected by the disaster. Dr. DeKleine, medical director of the Red Cross, left Washington ou September 6th by aeroplane for Texas in case serious health problems should arise.

The Red Cross has contributed $100,000 to the relief fund and is rendering aid to 6,240 families in the stricken area.

URUGUAY

Annual Report

The report of the Uruguayan Red Cross for the year 1932-33 announces the success of the Society's efforts to obtain State endorsement of the modifications in its statutes recommended by the Assembly General in December 1931. These important reforms, promulgated by decree of the Ministry of Public Instruction on March 21st of this year, have consolidated the position of the Society, while at the same time enlarging the field of its activities and increasing its sphere of influence.

The Junior Red Cross has been introduced into several schools and is regarded by the educational authorities with increasing interest. Interschool correspondence is very popular among the Juniors of Uruguay, and certain groups have organized courses in first aid for school-children.

The Canelones sub-committee, founded in June 1930, maintains a canteen where 19,279 free meals have been served in less than two years. Part of the provisions needed for the canteen are secured by the organization, each month, of a food drive, known as the "Dia del Kilo" or Kilo Day.

The same committee also runs a day nursery for children of working mothers, and a general clinic at which training courses are held for volunteer nurses' aids.

The sub-committee of Frayle-Muerto, founded in 1931, similarly undertakes the training of volunteer nurses' aids. A permanent vaccination centre maintained by this committee is staffed by the nurses trained at the Red Cross courses. Distributions of garments are made each year at Christmas to the poor of the region.

The Melo sub-committee runs a canteen at which thirty children are provided with daily meals.

YUGOSLAVIA

New Statutes of Red Cross

By decree of September 5th, 1933, the Yugoslav Government repealed the law of January 12th, 1896, relating to the Servian Red Cross and gave the Yugoslav Red Cross Society a new legal status. The effect of this will be to give fresh impetus to the Society, for it opens the door to a host of new possibilities for development within the country and for consolidating the bonds which unite the Yugoslav Red Cross to the principal international organizations.

The Central Committee has drafted revised statutes in conformity with the new law, and these will enter into force immediately after their adoption by the General Assembly of the Society.

The decree contains a number of new features. For example, in par. 3 of Art. 2, it is stipulated that the Society shall collaborate with the International Relief Union and that it must adhere to the League of Red Cross Societies. A clause in Art. 4 decrees that, so far as its resources and circumstances permit, the Society shall engage in the humanitarian activities defined in the programme of the League of Red Cross Societies. The status of the Junior Red Cross is also mentioned.

The following privileges are accorded to the Yugoslav Red Cross:

Exoneration from all State and municipal taxes on house property, and on the proceeds of entertainments and meetings held for the benefit of the Red Cross.

The free services of the National Printing Press for the publication of documents emanating from the Executive Committee of the Society, subject to the authorization of the Ministry of Public Instruction.

Free use of State or public buildings for the housing of Red Cross offices or store depôts.

Free postage, and exemption from telephone and telegraph charges in the event of public calamity or epidemics.

Reduced transport rates in peace-time, free in time of war, on all railways and ships.

Free transport for medical missions and material from neutral countries coming to the aid of the Yugoslav Red Cross in time of war. Free transport and transit for missions from neutral countries carrying aid to sick and wounded in other countries (subject to the authorization of the War Ministry and Admiralty in time of war).

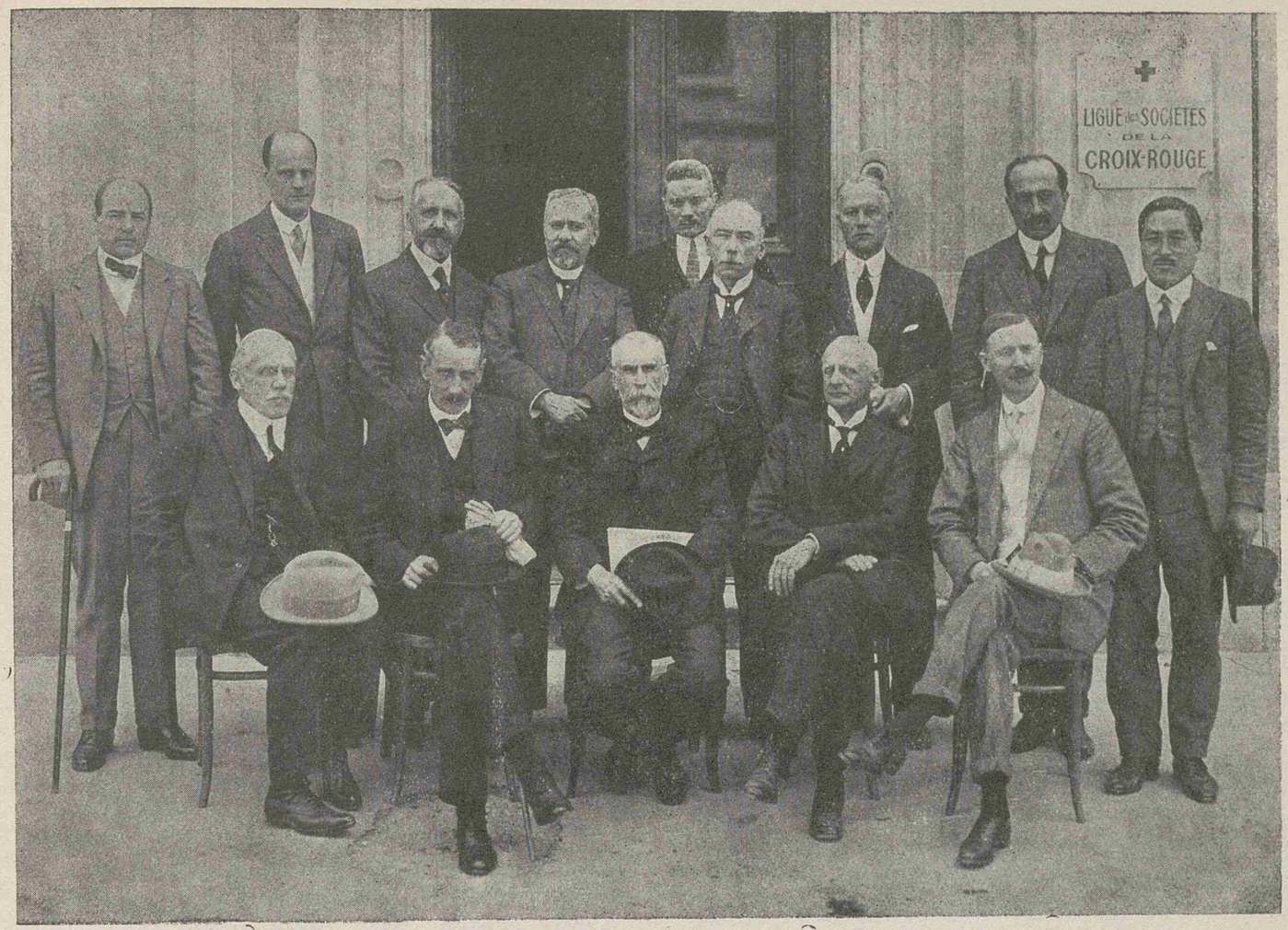
Red Cross committee members and staff are entitled while, on duty, to free transport on State-controlled railways and ships.

All material imported by the Red Cross is exempt from tax and customs duties, subject to certain conditions.

During the annual "Red Cross Week", no other organization is entitled to solicit contributions or to organize manifestations except in agreement with the Red Cross or for the benefit of the Red Cross.

Throughout the duration of the annual "Red Cross Week" a graduated tax of not less than half a dinar is levied on all fares in trains, ships, buses or trams. During the same period, a tax of half a dinar is charged on all letters, postcards, parcels and telegrams, and on admission tickets to theatres, cinemas, etc.

Articles 27, 28 and 29 of the decree relate to the use of the Red Cross title and emblem. Art. 30 lays down drastic penalties for the illicit use thereof, ranging from a maximum fine of 10,000 dinars to two months' imprisonment.



MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD OF THE LEAGUE
(Geneva, July 1920).

Seated, left to right: SIR GEORGE NEWMAN, SIR DAVID HENDERSON (DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE LEAGUE), ÉMILE ROUX, DR. SIMON FLEXNER COLONEL LYLE CUMMINS. — *Standing, left to right:* DR. RICHARD STRONG (MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE LEAGUE), SIR WALTER FLETCHER PROF. LÉON BERNARD, ALBERT CALMETTE, DR. BASTIANELLI, DR. BORDET, DR. MADSEN, DR. CASTELLANI, DR. TAKASUGI.

TWO GREAT SCIENTISTS
ROUX AND CALMETTE

Roux and Calmette have died within a few days of each other, and two more names have been added to the roll of the Immortals. In the whole history of medicine, it is difficult to find anything to compare with the work of these two men who, by their discoveries, have prolonged the lives of millions of their fellows creatures and brought fresh hope to the victims of diseases formerly regarded as incurable.

The League of Red Cross Societies has particular cause to mourn these men of genius, for to their wise guidance in its early days it owes much of the influence which it enjoys in the world today. Emile Roux presided over the historic meeting at Cannes, in April 1919, at which the League was born. Seated round the conference table were the bearers of some of the most illustrious names in science and medicine, who had come at the behest of Henry P. Davison to help define the future mission of the Red Cross in peace-time. Albert Calmette, Léon Bernard, Armand-Delille, Professor Pinard, Sir Arthur Newsholme, Sir Robert Philip, Sir Ronald Ross, Truby King Kay Menzies, Lyle Cummins, Cesare Baduel Bastianelli, Valagussa, Marchiafava, Livingston Farrand, Linsly Williams, Wickliffe Rose, Hermann Biggs, William Welch, Kabeshima—these were but a few of the world-renowned doctors and scientists whose interest in the Red Cross had brought them to Cannes.

Such men as Roux, Calmette and Davison were made to understand one another. All had the same vast breadth of vision, the same spirit of sublime endeavour; all were fired with a common ideal which, in the words of Davison, was to ''throw the light of science upon every corner of the earth and cleanse the world of human suffering''.

In concluding his speech at the opening session of the conference, Roux expressed in no uncertain terms his faith in the future of the Red Cross. ''Such an idea'', he said, ''will assuredly succeed, and we are convinced that this step taken by the Red Cross Societies will constitute the beginning of a new era of welfare for mankind.''

Davison was not spared to witness the full realization of his dream, but Roux lived long enough to see his own prophetic words come true. Indeed, he and his eminent colleague Calmette personally helped to establish that "new era of welfare for mankind" on a firm and lasting basis. As members of the Medical Advisory Board of the League, they took an active part in laying the foundations for the peace-time work of the Red Cross.

It is not proposed to retrace here, step by step, the lives of these two disciples of Pasteur, but it may be desirable to recall the principal episodes in their rise to fame.

Calmette started his career as a colonial doctor. He was soon remarked by Pasteur, who, in 1890, entrusted him with founding a Pasteur Institute at Saigon (Indo-China). It was while in charge of that institute that he commenced his research on venomous reptiles which was to lead some years later, after his transfer to the Pasteur Institute at Lille, to the epoch-making discovery of the snake-bite serum which has saved tens of thousands from an agonizing death. He next turned his attention to finding a vaccine against the plague virus. The discovery which was destined to earn for him the undying gratitude of posterity however, was the B.C.G. (anti-tuberculosis) vaccine, which he evolved in collaboration with Guérin after thirteen years of patient study and experimentation.

Great was the consternation when Calmette's death became known, and the thoughts of all irresistibly turned to that other grand old man of science whose name was always associated with his. The master did not long outlive his disciple: a few days later, the world was again plunged into mourning, this time for Emile Roux.

Universally famous in medical circles the name of Roux was little known to the general public, even in France. Yet his discoveries in the prevention and cure of diphtheria, tetanus, peri-pneumonia and infectious diseases generally, have been adopted by medical practitioners in every part of the civilized globe.

In 1876, Roux threw in his lot with Pasteur whose devoted collaborator he remained until the latter's death in 1895, when he succeeded him as head of the Pasteur Institute. Together, they discovered two factors which dominate the whole of present-day bacteriology and which were to form the basis of Roux's life studies: the first was that, in an attenuated form, a very virulent bacillus can confer immunity: the second, that the virulence of microbes is due to poisons or toxins, against which the organism defends itself by producing anti-toxins. The recognition of these factors led Roux, in 1894, to the sensational discovery of the anti-diphtheric serum, which has reduced the mortality from diphtheria from 50 to 3.5 per cent. But Roux was not the man to rest content with these achievements. A few years later, in collaboration with Vieillard, he brought to light an anti-tetanic serum, and the approach of his eightieth birthday found him still busily at work in his laboratory seeking for fresh fields of conquest.

These two great benefactors of humanity have left behind them a work that will cause their names to be blessed by countless generations to come.

AID FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

"THE Red Cross of today is not the Red Cross of yesterday nor of tomorrow", declared a high official of the American Red Cross recently. "Its history is one of adjustment to the needs of the day in which it operates. It is hard to find a place to stop and say it can go no farther and that it will retreat. It moves on. This particular age is one of adventure and work, and change and experimentation, and vision and sacrifice, and the Red Cross is an instrument of this situation."

The Red Cross, in all countries, is today confronted with the widespread distress caused by unemployment, and the National Societies have attacked the problem in the same spirit as they would have done a natural disaster or an epidemic.

With the approach of winter, when the ranks of the unemployed are swelled and their plight becomes still more tragic, the Red Cross is preparing to redouble its efforts and organize an appropriate plan of campaign. Each country, each region even, has its own peculiar problems, and no single programme can be laid down for all. Nevertheless, long experience in this kind of work has brought to light a certain number of common features.

First and foremost, the Red Cross can extend to the unemployed and their dependants the free medical care given in its existing institutions. In the majority of countries, the Red Cross maintains ante-natal consultations, baby clinics, infant and maternity health centres, holiday camps, preventoria, antituberculosis and anti-venereal dispensaries, mental hygiene clinics and general health centres, and all of these are at the disposal of the unemployed and their families.

Red Cross public health nurses, social workers and voluntary aids are thus brought into direct

contact with the classes most sorely affected by unemployment, and are consequently able to help destitute families to secure emergency grants or have ailing members admitted to appropriate institutions. If a child is in poor health, arrangements can be made with the school canteen or with an open-air school. If a mother is run down as the result of an operation or child-birth, she can be sent to a convalescent home.

Such action is taken as part of the regular work of the Red Cross. The present emergency, however, as most of the National Societies have realized, demands some more specific remedy... or palliative; for the remedy, unhappily, does not lie within the reach of the Red Cross.

Effective assistance might be rendered by the National Societies and their local committees by joining in the efforts undertaken on behalf of the unemployed in general, or on behalf of those whose position is especially critical. They might, for instance, concentrate on the relief of wives and children of the workless. They might lend premises and staff, make grants, organize collections, sales of work, entertainments or lotteries for the benefit of Unemployment Relief Funds.

The first and most important step, of course, is to provide for the material needs of the unemployed—food, clothing and shelter. For the benefit of those Societies which have not yet organized unemployment relief, we propose to describe some of the more successful methods adopted by their sister Societies in this direction.

The problem of providing food has found a wide variety of solutions. In some countries, the Red Cross organizes house-to-house appeals and invites the occupants to help their unemployed neighbours. In others, it arranges distributions of food by volunteers to aged people, invalids and women in childbirth belonging to the households of men without work. In Czechoslovakia,members of the Red Cross daily invite to their table a child from a destitute family.

Some of the Red Cross Societies issue food vouchers entitling the recipient to groceries, or to free meals in canteens or specified restaurants. In Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, U. S. A. and Yugoslavia, the Red Cross distributes milk to children of the unemployed. During four months of last winter, the Swedish Red Cross fed 17,000 children in the regions most cruelly affected by the crisis. Most national Societies, directly or through their Junior Sections, have opened free school canteens for the children of the workless, while soup kitchens have been organized for adults, and refectories for the impoverished middle-classes. In many of the canteens, the cooking and cleaning is done by unemployed persons, who are remunerated in kind.

Certain local sections have appealed to farmers to hand over their surplus harvests of vegetables and fruit, which are either distributed straight away to the needy, or bottled and stored for the winter.

The most extensive feeding operation on record is that recently conducted by the American Red Cross, which, at the request of Congress, converted 85,000,000 bushels of wheat into flour and shared it out, through 3,667 of its Chapters, among 5,803,000 families in the form of flour or bread. The bran left over after milling provided 223,900 tons of cattle fodder.

By providing the unemployed with clothing, the Red Cross is fulfilling a twofold object. In the first place, clothes help to keep the workless man's body warm and thus to protect him against illness; above all, they help him to maintain his self-respect, and this is perhaps even more important.

Twenty-three different national Societies were engaged last winter in this task. One of the most successful methods adopted is the "Clothes Drive", whereby the help of Juniors, Boy Scouts, women's committees, first-aid detachments, shopkeepers, milkmen and even the militia is enlisted to collect used garments and bring them to the Red Cross depôts, where they are sorted, washed and reconditioned by the unemployed themselves and by volunteers. In certain parts of Canada, the Red Cross has been officially entrusted by the Government and local authorities with the task of purchasing and distributing garments. The American Red Cross, in 1932, received 844,000 bales of raw cotton from the Government, and set up a gigantic enterprise—involving 3,646 Chapters and 695,000 volunteers—to convert the raw material into 92 million yards of cotton cloth and 55 million garments, which were subsequently presented to some 20 million persons. The whole operation was carried out without any money changing hands (except for administrative costs), the work of the cotton-mills and garment factories being paid for in raw cotton.

Hard enough during the summer months, the plight of the unemployed becomes well nigh intolerable in winter. Many of the national Societies have responded magnificently to this emergency, as the following examples show. The Belgian Red Cross opens heated shelters for the homeless unemployed and gives coal to those who have homes but no means of keeping them warm. The French Red Cross issues vouchers for free beds. The Polish and Swedish Societies maintain warm shelters and huts for unemployed men engaged in government work schemes. Last year, the Czechoslovak Red Cross accommodated 159,000 persons in its night shelter in Prague. The Canadian Red Cross maintains 22 hostels for unemployed ex-service men. The German

Red Cross has instituted a nation-wide scheme for housing the unemployed, comprising hostels and heated shelters for the homeless unemployed. reading-rooms for needy students, and day nurseries for children. Unemployed adolescents are offered the hospitality of the Society's twelve inns for young people.

Even if it were possible to cater for all the material needs of the unemployed, however, their moral distress would still remain just as acute. How can they be saved from the pernicious effects of enforced idleness—the sense of social isolation and loss of caste, which gradually sap their self-respect, annihilate their working capacities, disintegrate the family and lead them to a state of apathy and despair? And the young people leaving school or finishing their apprenticeship, who are unable to exercise a trade and are left to roam the streets, exposed to all the pitfalls and temptations lying in wait for the idle and inexperienced; what is to become of them? This moral scourge the Red Cross in endeavouring to combat just as earnestly as it is striving to mitigate the physical distress of the unemployed.

In response to the stirring appeal of the Prince of Wales, the British Red Cross has joined its efforts to those of the Occupational Centres, the objects of which are to provide the unemployed with physical training, manual labour, technical instruction and recreation. The Red Cross has supplemented the curriculum of the centres with courses in first aid, health, and care of the sick.

The German Red Cross is pursuing a vast plan of instruction for youthful unemployed, and has organized a number of courses in practical subjects. In the 133 housewifery schools maintained by its Women's Committees, it has established domestic courses for unemployed girls in dressmaking, cookery, gardening, child welfare and hygiene. In co-operation with the Labour Exchanges, it has instituted courses in book-keeping and commercial correspondence for boys. Marshal Mannerheim's League, which is affiliated to the Finnish Red Cross, has trained 250 qualified games instructors for 179 rural clubs with an aggregate of 30,000 members.

The ideal remedy for the distress of the unemployed man, of course, is to give him work. Realizing this, several national Societies have opened "social centres" where the particular circumstances of each candidate are examined and efforts made to provide him with some form of occupation. One of the first Societies to adopt this system was the Czechoslovak Red Cross which, in 1930, succeeded in finding work for 314 apprentices and aiding 1,635 emigrants. Employment bureaux have also been set up by the Red Cross in Australia, Brazil, France, Latvia and New Zealand.

The social service department of the Hungarian Red Cross in Budapest has helped 68,000 families. Long before the crisis, the American Red Cross had extended the benefits of its "Home Service" (originally designed for war veterans and their families) to civilians; 1,611 Chapters are now engaged in mass unemployment relief, while 2,534 are relieving individual cases. In a number of countries, the Red Cross is co-operating with State schemes for reducing unemployment. When the Federal Board of Forestry set up 44 camps for navvies in California, twentyone of the local Red Cross chapters supplied the men with flour, clothing and medical care. Parallel with the camps for volunteer male workers (Freiwilliger Arbeiterdienst) established by the German Government, the Red Cross has organized clubs for unemployed girls, where they are given board and lodging in exchange for housework, laundering and mending. Elsewhere, the Red Cross has opened work-rooms, allotted home tasks, and arranged repair-sheds for tailors, cobblers, carpenters and locksmiths, either on its own premises or in disused shops or warehouses.

One of the best solutions for the unemployment problem has proved to be the institution of gardens for the workless, of which there are today upwards of a million and half in Germany alone, supplying the needs in fruit and vegetables of 6,500,000 citizens. As far back as 1901, the German Red Cross began to acquire plots of ground at Charlottenburg and Lubeck, and transform them into workers' allotments; by 1931, more than 10,000 were under cultivation. The advantage of these gardens is threefold: they provide the unemployed man and his family with subsistence, offer an outlet for his energies, and re-incorporate him into the social life of the community. The American Red Cross distributed last year some 315,000 packets of seed in 140 mining districts where unemployment had become prevalent. The Society has also established Community Gardens, the produce of which is distributed to the unemployed or preserved for future emergencies. In all these enterprises, the Red Cross has had the co-operation of its Junior members who have everywhere displayed a fine spirit of helpfulness and method.

An institution such as the Red Cross, imbued with the highest humanitarian ideals and possessed of immense potentialities in the form of voluntary collaboration and goodwill, should have no difficulty in devising appropriate and useful methods of helping the unemployed. It cannot cherish the ambition to cure ills for which even the Governments themselves can find no more than a palliative, but it can most assuredly do a very great deal to mitigate the distress caused by the crisis.

Dr. RENÉ SAND,
Technical Counsellor,
League of Red Cross Societies.

NURSING IN LATVIA

by MARTHE CELMINS,
President, Latvian Red Cross Nurses' Association

THE development of nursing in Latvia is closely bound up with the work of the Nurses' Association of the Latvian Red Cross. This is a professional body in which all the nursing activities of the country are centred.

The registration of nurses is entrusted by the State to the Latvian Red Cross. The Registration Committee includes representatives of the Nurses' Association among its members. Nurses who wish to register must furnish their leaving certificate from secondary school and papers showing that they have undergone a course of training in a state registered school with the official minimum curriculum, and that they have duly passed the State examination. All these documents are retained by the Association, which keeps all records concerning nurses in Latvia. In March, 1933, the number of registered nurses in Latvia was 713, of whom 543 were members of the Association.

In regard to the training of nurses, considerable progress has been made. Acting on the proposal of the Nurses' Association, a minimum curriculum for all schools of nursing was drafted by a special commission on which representatives of the Association also sat. This programme was adopted by the Health Department of the Ministry of National Welfare, and is now followed by all nursing schools in Latvia. From 1933 on, the course of training has been extended to three years, although the official curriculum demands a two years' course only. Candidates are not admitted to schools of nursing unless they have a leaving certificate from secondary school. Schools of nursing are not attached to hospitals with less than 100 beds. Instruction in nursing ethics, history of nursing and practical care must be given by a nurse. The Examination Commission must include a member of the Nurses' Association.

There are at present four schools of nursing in Latvia, two of which belong to the Latvian Red Cross. There is also a German school, and a Jewish school, both at Riga. All these schools are attached to hospitals coming up to the required standard. The four schools have a total of 90 pupils.

Since 1932, the Red Cross schools of nursing have been supervised by the Department of Teachers' Colleges and Secondary Schools (Ministry of Education) and by the Health Department (Ministry of National Welfare). The fact that candidates must have reached a high standard in general education has produced very promising results, since nurses with a wide outlook have greater opportunities in later life. It is interesting to note that the number of educated girls wishing to take up nursing is very large with the result that the Red Cross is always able to make a good selection.

The training of public health nurses has been much improved. There is now a theoretical course on general hygiene (30 lectures), preventive medicine (15 lectures) and 30 lectures on public health work,—subjects included in the school curriculum and made compulsory for all students. In addition, students wishing to work in the health centres must take the final examination at the end of the course, and then follow a post-graduate course of 3 ½ months in public health. This course is arranged by the Red Cross and supervised by a nurse-inspector belonging to the Red Cross health centres. The programme is as follows:

Dental hygiene	6	lectures.
Hygiene of eyes, ears, nose and throat	8	»
Accountancy of the health centres	4	»
Work of the National and International Red Cross; Latvian Red Cross and nursing organizations	8	»
Rural problems and ethics in public health	15	»
Mental hygiene	6	»

This makes a total of 47 lectures. Practical experience is obtained as follows: one month in the health centres, one month in the baby centre, a fortnight in the University Dental Institute, and one month devoted to social work and school nursing. Experience in school work is obtained in kindergartens, elementary and outdoor schools. This post-graduate work is supplemented by the making of babies' and pre-school childrens' clothes. This practical experience is of the utmost importance, since nurses attached to health centres in rural districts or villages are called upon to look after kindergartens and elementary schools. The young nurse must therefore not only be familiar with the organization and administration of the health centre which she has to supervise, but she must also gain adequate experience in regard to schools and kindergartens.

Public health work is developing rapidly in Latvia. Besides the Red Cross, several other organizations in Riga are engaged in this field, especially in connection with maternity and child welfare, and with the municipal schools in Riga. At the present time, the Latvian Red Cross runs 52 health centres, with a total number of 82 nurses, including those doing school work. In the provinces school nursing is generally done by the nurses attached to the health centres, but certain dispensaries have nurses specially told off for these duties. All

elementary schools in Riga have school nurses. Fifteen per cent of all registered nurses are engaged in public health work in connection with various institutions and associations.

The Red Cross issues a regular call to the nurses belonging to the health centres for a short refresher course given at Riga, in which nurses from the various districts take part. A one year course in X-ray work for trained nurses has been arranged at the University of Latvia.

Conditions of work for nurses employed in hospitals and clinics obviously imply a somewhat secluded life. There is a great need of opportunities for giving them a new outlook, and for refreshing and completing their technical knowledge. Since absence from hospital is not always easy to manage, the Association has arranged several series of lectures in the more important hospitals, both in the provinces and in Riga. These lectures are given by specialists and deal with professional matters and subjects of general interest.

The Association has also organized courses in foreign languages, and several study-groups have been formed. Moreover an athletic club, a dramatic society, and a sewing-class have been started.

With a view to training an auxiliary corps capable of seconding trained nurses in case of emergency the Latvian Red Cross held a six months' course in 1929. Thirty women attended this class, but this number has not been increased, since it does not appear advisable to lower the present standard of nursing service, or to create unfair competition. The Red Cross makes certain grants to the auxiliary police (men and women) with a view to holding first-aid courses; it also assumes part cost of a special three months' course given at the Military Hospital of Riga, mainly concerned with first-aid, for the women workers of the same organization. The Red Cross has therefore decided to call upon these workers in case of emergency.

The development of the Association's work has made the need of a professional nursing journal evident and a magazine called ZÈLSIR-DIGA MASA (The Nurse) was started in November 1929. This is an illustrated publication and is edited by two nurses, M. Celmins and J. Kushke.

In order to cater for the intellectual needs of its members, the Association has founded a good library containing about 2,800 volumes of both professional and general interest, as well as local and foreign periodicals.

Close contact is maintained between the Nurses' Association of the Latvian Red Cross and similar organizations belonging to its nearest neighbours, Estonia and Lithuania. In order to ensure full cooperation along common lines a NURSING COMMITTEE FOR LATVIA, ESTONIA AND LITHUANIA has been formed. This Committee is the outcome of a conference held in 1925, in which nurses of all three countries took part. The Committee includes three representatives of each country and meets twice a year. The sessions afford opportunities of discussing all matters relating to nursing and are a useful means of exchanging opinions and suggestions; they are held successively in each of the countries named. In July, 1931, the Nursing Committee summoned a CONGRESS OF NURSES OF THE BALTIC STATES at Tallinn. The Congress was attended by representatives of the League of Red Cross Societies, the International Red Cross Committee and the International Council of Nurses.

The Nurses' Association of Latvia has taken up the question of the training of nurses in dietetics. In this connection, a course of dietetics in charge of Dr. F. W. Lapp, assistant to Professor C. von Noorden, Vienna, was arranged by the Latvian Red Cross at the end of 1932. The course included lectures as well as practical demonstrations in several hospitals, and was attended by a number of senior nurses.

Following up this idea, the Latvian Red Cross has sent one of its nurses to Austria for the purpose of taking a twelve months course in the Municipal Hospital in Lainz, Vienna, with a view to training as a dietitian.

The Association has long been attempting to convince the authorities of the need for State pensions to nurses. In conjunction with the Latvian Red Cross, it had drafted regulations to this effect, and these were approved by the Ministry of National Welfare. The Association's scheme proved successful, since an old age Pensions Act for State employees has been voted, and its provisions made applicable to nurses.

Another of the Association's objects had been to found a home for nurses who are no longer able to work. The Latvian Red Cross generously supplied the premises, while the Association undertook all repairs and furnishing arrangements. The home was opened in 1931. It stands in a large garden, and has 22 single rooms, a dining room, drawing room and library. Though intended for necessitous or invalid nurses, others requiring a rest cure of some duration, as well as students finishing their training, are also admitted when accommodation is available. The large library is also used as a hall for lectures, courses, etc. An annex has four rooms for visitors. The cost of upkeep is borne by the Association.

A holiday hostel has been started at the seaside in a villa presented for this purpose by the Red Cross. Nurses in active employment are asked to repay a certain part of the expenses of their stay, while those who are ill or without means are maintained free of charge.

The Association assists the work done by the Latvian Junior Red Cross, the Latvian Save the Children Union and other organizations working side by side with the Red Cross.

PLANNING A MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

NEVER has the need for Red Cross membership been greater than at the present time, with a wave of economic depression dislocating the lives of countless millions in all the countries, and plunging the world into a morass of hardship and distress never before equalled within living memory.

This situation makes it all the more essential for the national Red Cross Societies to concentrate the utmost care and thought on a matter so vital to their wellbeing, for experience has shown that, without a healthy membership roll, no Society can attain its maximum of efficiency. When times are hard, a superhuman effort is needed to persuade the man in the street to part with the small sum required for membership in the Red Cross; even pennies have become precious, and it is no easy matter to convince him that Red Cross membership is a gilt-edged investment!

No Society in the world possesses a membership in any way approaching that of the American Red Cross, either numerically or in the proportion of members to the population. The secret of its success lies in the methods which it adopts for bringing home to the popular imagination just what is implied by the Red Cross. As all the world knows, the Americans are pastmasters in the art of propaganda and, for this reason, many other countries look to the United States for guidance in such matters. The annual membership drive (or "Roll Call"), carried out with characteristic thoroughness every November by the American Red Cross, is typical of these methods.

The details given below are gleaned from a book of suggestions issued by the national headquarters of the American Red Cross to its Chapters (or regional committees).

The Roll Call is based on the right of the individual to Red Cross membership, and the obligation of the Red Cross to provide the individual with the opportunity to join.

It must be borne in mind that there is a psychological moment for such undertakings. In the case of the British Empire, for instance, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth has been adopted for the opening of the campaign in all the British Dominions. In the United States, the Roll Call opens on Armistice Day (November 11th) and continues until Thanksgiving Day (the last Thursday of November); in other words, at a period when the national consciousness of the masses is at concert pitch, consequently creating an attitude of mind favourable to any institution of public utility.

The American Red Cross, in common with most of the other national Societies, depends almost exclusively on membership fees for financing its national and local services. In order, therefore, to provide the enormous budget needed for its vast programme of activities, it is essential for it to enlist the financial support of a very high percentage of the population, and this can only be accomplished through direct, personal appeals by every Chapter and Branch to all the people living within their respective territories.

The ideal objective is to enrol every adult as a Red Cross member. The practical objective is to advance each year as far towards that ideal as is humanly possible. A definite goal is an asset. A Chapter that plans to enrol a specific number of members is more likely to attain its end. This is why, each year at Roll Call time, every one of the American Red Cross Chapters sets itself a definite "quota" and makes a point not only of attaining that goal but of exceeding it if possible.

Organizing the Roll Call

The actual planning and conduct of the campaign is, in many Chapters, delegated to a committee selected for the purpose. The membership of the committee should be representative of the major interests in the community. The Committee should be organized early in the year so that it may have ample time to adopt plans. The entire plan should be put on paper so that it may be studied and revised and, when agreed upon, placed in the hands of each member of the Committee. The Committee should divide the various phases of the work among sub-committees, which may in turn still further divide the many tasks. Decentralization is extremely important, because the less each individual has to do the more willing he is to volunteer and the better he will do his share. In other words, get a lot of people to do a few things each, instead of a few people to do a lot of things each.

Before embarking on the campaign, each Chapter will carefully analyze the results of its previous Roll Call in order to identify the weak spots in its last campaign and accordingly plan to strengthen the appeal in the hitherto less productive areas.

Telling the Public

Any endeavour dependent upon public interest and support must have publicity. The unknown possesses no popular appeal. It is the duty of the Red Cross to inform the people

who support it precisely what it does with their support. It must meet the competition to capture public attention; it must do so with accuracy, honesty and dignity—which does not mean that its publicity need be lacking in colour or vigour.

The national organization provides special, nation-wide publicity prior to and during the enrolment period. It supplies Red Cross articles for use in newspapers, magazines and trade reviews, presents special programmes on the national broadcasting networks; obtains distribution of a coloured newspaper supplement in the smaller dailies and weeklies, and provides these papers with other interesting illustrated features. Besides this, it gives direct publicity aid to its Chapters. It supplies display material and literature, and aids the Chapters in other ways that would be beyond their individual means.

So far as local publicity is concerned, it is the duty of the Chapter to use every means available within its territory for telling the public about the Red Cross and the Roll Call. It should provide the local newspapers with complete information about the campaign, its purposes, how it is to be conducted and by whom, what the Chapter has been doing to merit support, what the national organization is doing and why it should have local support. The newspapers offer opportunities for news articles, editorials, special feature stories and pictures. Posters, window cards and cut-outs should be affixed at all places where people pass or gather in large numbers. A simple display, judiciously arranged, is always effective. The Chapters should enlist speakers, provide them with all necessary information and arrange for them to speak at meetings or from the local broadcasting station. The methods used must obviously vary according to local conditions: in some territories, Red Cross pageants and demonstrations are arranged; in others, the clergy are persuaded to make appeals from the church pulpits, and local tradesmen are urged to make window displays. Wherever possible, arrangements are made with the local picture theatres to show Red Cross propaganda films.

Recruiting and Instructing Canvassers

The key to successful enrolment is the personal, verbal invitation to join the Red Cross. No other idea has proved so successful, and it has stood the test of sixteen years. The best mode of procedure is that which provides for the organization and instruction of a group of canvassers, with the necessary leaders, who will ask the people—in their homes or at the places where they work—to join the Red Cross.

Great care must be exercised in the choice of the persons who are to extend the invitation, since much of the ultimate success of the campaign will depend on the personality of the canvassers. Many Chapters re-enlist as many as possible of their workers following each Roll Call. Workers are recruited from among those who have helped in the past, from among those who have taken Red Cross courses in first aid, life saving, home hygiene and care of the sick, from members of veterans' organizations, churches, men's and women's clubs.

Canvassers should be adequately instructed in their rôle. Each should be informed precisely what his or her job is, and how to do it, and given complete information about the Red Cross, national and local. They should be called together for one or more meetings. The best, most courteous way of inviting individuals to join should be demonstrated. There should be brief, informative talks on Red Cross services.

Because the Roll Call work is carried out by volunteers, and these volunteers have other duties, the work should be so divided that no one worker is called upon to devote an unreasonable amount of time and effort to this task. Division of territory, and division of the work among many, is the secret of obtaining willing volunteers.

Methods of Enrolment

The American Red Cross has evolved two principal methods of membership enrolment; they can be used separately or in combination, and can be applied to any territory. One is the house-to-house canvass, the other is known as group enrolment. For the first, each worker is assigned a specific part of the district (one apartment house, one side of a street, or a particular section of country road). Some Chapters send out their canvassers in pairs because two are harder to turn down than one. A definite day for starting enrolment must be selected, and a definite limit set to the period within which enrolment is to be carried on. Workers are informed where and when they are to report and deposit the money collected.

Under the group enrolment plan, the invitation is extended to the people where they work, usually by fellow workers. Considerable preliminary work is necessary here. The success of the enrolment depends largely upon thorough organization of the groups. The major industrial activities are taken as basis of the groups, each of which may be considered as a separate Roll Call in itself.

Let us see what the Chapter Roll Call Chairman does to bring about action, taking the Financial Group as an example. In this group are listed all the banks, brokerage and investment houses. The Roll Call Chairman invites a leading banker to act as chairman and assume all responsibility for enrolment in his particular group. The banker will write to the head of each of the institutions on his list, asking him to authorize Red Cross enrolment in his offices, and suggesting that he name someone in his employ to head the Roll Call in that institution

and "sign on" the staff. The same procedure takes place in each group and in each unit of a group. This decentralizes the work and makes it easier for all concerned. The Roll Call Chairman calls together the group chairmen for at least one meeting, so that he may make them conversant with the plan, and the Chapter Roll Call Committee sees to it that each group is provided with the necessary supplies.

A house-to-house canvass, supplementary to the group enrolment, is carried on in residential sections, but every effort is made to avoid duplication of appeals.

The Roll Call in Rural Territory

As the "Plan Book" of the American Red Cross points out, there are no really fundamental differences between Roll Call in the town and in the country. In both cases, the personal invitation to join is the most effective. Either the house-to-house method or group enrolment, or both, will serve the rural Chapter, though many of the details of organization and propaganda used in a city can and must be dispensed with in the country. Sound arguments support the house-to-house canvass as the more satisfactory mode of enrolling rural members, since this offers the surest guarantee of reaching every family and every member of the family.

As in the case of the urban areas, rural territory can be divided into districts; district leaders should be selected and assembled, well before the opening of the campaign, to receive instructions and Roll Call supplies.

The country also has its groups, and these may be used for the group method of enrolment if deemed desirable. Each group may be asked to enrol members for the Red Cross within its own membership.

The rural Chapter is less privileged than the city Chapter so far as channels for reaching the public are concerned. It probably has no radio broadcasting station, and opportunities for reaching the people through newspapers may be restricted. Where there is a paper, it must be made every possible use of. As a general rule, rural editors are glad to assist the Red Cross by all the means in their power. The Chapter must be careful to plan in advance what use it purports to make of the local opportunities for newspaper publicity, and should seek the advice of the editor himself. An excellent plan is to invite the editor to serve on the propaganda committee or to take charge of the publicity side of the programme.

The rural Chapter has fewer shop windows at its disposal for displaying propaganda material. On the other hand, shopkeepers in small communities are often more liberal than their city confrères in the matter of providing space for Red Cross publicity. In addition, the village library, railway station and church might be persuaded to offer the hospitality of their walls to Red Cross posters.

Some of the best opportunities at the disposal of the rural Chapter are afforded by meetings. The Chapter should ask each local organization to allow the Red Cross fifteen minutes for a speaker at one of its meetings, before or during the Roll Call. The local picture theatre can usually be induced to co-operate in the campaign by using the Roll Call film, when one is available.

The fullest possible advantage must be taken of Red Cross Sunday. A local clergyman should be asked to take charge of arrangements for observing this day in all the churches of the region, and provided with all the information needed for Red Cross sermons or talks. Leaflets can be distributed in the churches, the local library and different club-houses, or delivered from door to door by older members of the Junior Red Cross, or by Scouts and Girl Guides. News of the Roll Call can be carried into the homes by the school children, if they are members of the Junior Red Cross.

The rural town is not entirely lacking in opportunity for special publicity features. Many of them have an Armistice Day parade, and the Red Cross might take part in this.

How the Junior Red Cross can Help

Chapters having schools enrolled in the Junior Red Cross should enlist teachers and pupils in an effective organization for the Roll Call. The first step is to invite the chairman, or another member of the Chapter's Junior Red Cross Committee, to serve on the Roll Call Committee. If deemed advisable, one or more of the older girls and boys, and a representative of the schools, may be included in the membership of that committee.

Although youthful members of the Junior Red Cross are not permitted to solicit adult memberships or to collect money for the Roll Call, there are many ways in which they can help, e. g. typing, clerical work, and distribution of Roll Call supplies and literature.

Roll Call publicity by Juniors may take the form of talks and radio programmes, writing news stories, preparing special Red Cross numbers of school papers, arranging exhibits, designing posters, staging school plays and entertainments, making Red Cross flags and serving at Roll Call teas or luncheons.

Chapter officials should at all times be ready to grant interviews to students seeking information about the Red Cross, to accept invitations to address school classes or assemblies, and to supply pupils with Roll Call literature.

Conclusion

Tell the Red Cross story in every way possible —that is the guide to formulating a successful propaganda campaign.

THE I. R. U. CARRIES ON

It will be recalled that the first meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Relief Union met last July at Geneva, immediately consecutive to the first session of the General Council of the Union. Paris was chosen as the scene of the Committee's second meeting, and on October 31st five of its seven members met at the offices of the League of Red Cross Societies. They were Senator Ciraolo (chairman), the Marquis de Lillers and Colonel Draudt (vice-chairmen), and Messrs. François and Maudslay. M. Pilotti (Under Secretary-General of the League of Nations), M. Werner (Vice-President of the International Red Cross Committee), and Mr. Swift (Secretary-General of the League of Red Cross Societies) attended in an advisory capacity.

On the eve of the meeting, the Executive Committee of the League of Red Cross Societies had ratified the agreement drawn up in July between the Executive Committee of the I.R.U. and the international Red Cross bodies. This ratification, following on that of the International Red Cross Committee, has prepared the way for close co-operation between the Union and the International Red Cross organizations, which have agreed to provide the Central and Permanent Services of the Union.

Mutual understanding as to the sharing out of their respective tasks has been reached between the International Committee and the League. The former is to take charge of general affairs and juridical questions, the preparation of meetings, agenda and minutes. The League will be responsible for compiling and distributing general data in regard to the relief resources of the different countries, plans for mobilization in the event of disaster, etc., and for establishing co-operation with national relief agencies. It will also submit proposals to the Executive Committee for the choice of experts. Co-operation with other international relief agencies will be maintained by the League in consultation with the International Committee. On the occurrence of a disaster requiring the intervention of the International Relief Union, and after the Executive Committee has pronounced in favour of such intervention the League and the International Committee will agree as to their respective functions.

The report of the Central and Permanent Services was unanimously approved, and Senator Ciraolo paid a tribute to the work of these services during the past few months.

The Chairman informed the Committee of the position in regard to the contributions of Governments to the initial fund of the Union. Payment had already been made by the Governments of Germany, Great Britain, Luxemburg, Sudan, Switzerland and Venezuela. By October 30th, contributions received aggregated 146,132.50 Swiss francs. The funds have been deposited with the Geneva branch of Lloyds' and National Provincial Foreign Bank.

Mr. Werner's suggestions for amendments to the financial clauses of the Executive Committee's by-laws—formulated at the request of the Committee at its first session—gave rise to animated debate. The plan as outlined by Mr. Werner defines the three main financial responsibilities of the I. R. U. as: management of the Union's property, general administration and relief operations, each being governed by different regulations. The text of the new by-laws as adopted by the Executive Committee at its second session appeared *in extenso* in the latest issue of the REVUE INTERNATIONALE DE LA CROIX-ROUGE, the organ of the I.R.C.C.

Having adopted these financial regulations, the Executive Committee proceeded to the election of a Treasurer. Its choice fell upon M. Edouard Vidoudez, who has been director of the Geneva branch of the Paris and Netherlands Bank since 1921, and auditor of the accounts of the International Red Cross Committee for the past twelve years. Senator François, who had been acting as treasurer pending the appointment of a permanent nominee, agreed to serve as Financial Delegate, in which capacity he will be the *rapporteur* of the Finance Commission at meetings of the Executive Committee.

Continuing with its agenda, the Committee then examined the plan of mobilization prepared for its consideration by the Central and Permanent Services, which were requested to continue their studies of the problem.

It was agreed that the members of the Executive Committee should present individual proposals for the nomination of experts. The Central and Permanent Services were also instructed to invite candidatures from the national Red Cross Societies of countries adhering to the Union, and to submit proposals to the Executive Committee.

Senator Ciraolo notified the Committee that he had requested the Italian Minister of Public Works (who is responsible for disaster work in Italy) to designate a suitable candidate to serve as Italian expert to the I. R. U. The Minister proposed the nomination of Signor Domenico Romano, director of special services at the Ministry of the Interior, who, for twenty years past, has directed relief operations in Italy and is a high authority on relief matters. The Executive Committee was unanimous in accepting this nomination.

At the proposal of M. de Lillers, the members of the Committee signified their desire to have the next meeting convened in Rome.

HOW THE FLYING DOCTOR CAME TO AUSTRALIA

by HAROLD LARGE, of Napier, N.Z.

To link up the scattered settlers in the Australian bush with the rest of the continent, and provide for their spiritual, medical and material needs, was a dream which had long haunted the waking thoughts of one John Flynn, who, as "Flynn of the Inland", is now almost a figure of legend in the Antipodes. When it is realized that two-thirds of the Australian continent—some two million square miles—are still practically a wilderness and inhabited by a mere handful of settlers (for what are 50,000 men, women and children compared to so vast an area?), such an undertaking must have appeared nothing short of foolhardy a quarter of a century ago.

For this man of resource, however, nothing was impossible and he was determined, at all costs, to spider-web that immense expanse with nursing homes and adequate means of communication. He succeeded in interesting a few progressive spirits in his scheme and, in 1911, a small fund was raised to send Flynn on a tour of northern Australia to reconnoitre the possibilities. Twelve months later he returned and presented his report to the Home Missions Board of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Intense interest and sympathy were aroused, and the Assembly agreed with Flynn that the linking of the interior by means of a chain of hospitals was not merely a national but a humane necessity. The difficulties in the way of providing doctors were insuperable, but the establishment of nursing homes, each in charge of a qualified nurse, was considered to be within the bounds of possibility. So the Board resolved to make a start. A few months later, the first nursing home was established at Oodnadatta, a railway terminus 688 miles from Adelaide.

The next step was to call public attention to the movement. Flynn approached governments, officials, organizations, business houses and private citizens; where immediate assistance was not forthcoming, he sowed the seeds of thought by means of lecturing tours. Some smiled and treated him as a hopeless visionary, but they would have laughed outright had they known the new ambition which was now firing the imagination of the indomitable Flynn, viz., to start a service of Flying Doctors and Air Ambulances!

About this time a series of tragic stories, illustrating the medical destitution of the inland settlers, percolated through to the outside world, and the public at last began to visualize the plight of these unfortunate people situated hundreds of miles from help.

By the end of 1915, funds had accumulated but were still insufficient to start another hospital. In far-away Port Headland, on the Western Australian coast, the citizens called a meeting and decided to make the experiment of a nursing home under the auspices of Flynn's Australian Inland Mission. The State Government was immediately sympathetic and promised a subsidy. With a nurse installed at Port Headland, the A.I.M. had taken the first step in its merciful conquest of the wild north-west.

During the Great War, Flynn eagerly followed the rapid advances in aviation and wireless, the perfection of motor transport and surgery. One day, he read a letter from a young Australian flying officer at the Front, setting forth in approximate detail how his dream of flying doctors for Australia might be realized. Flynn mused over the Northern Territory and its half million square miles. His meditations were cut short by an urgent call for help from a mining settlement, 250 miles from Port Darwin, where fever had broken out. The Government offered to erect a hospital there if the A.I.M. would find nurses and maintain them.

No sooner had the new hospital been set going than Flynn returned again to his haunting obsession: how to devise some accessible means of communication for every man and woman in the "outback" settlements, something by which swift help could be made available when needed. Wireless for every home would bring security, would help to open roads—and roads would mean motor-transport. Flynn wanted a baby wireless transmitting set, so inexpensive, light and simple that every bush mother could handle it.

Meanwhile, he must report on the most suitable localities for nursing homes. Soon Hall's Creek nursing home was under weigh, followed in 1919 by the Beltana nursing home, some 350 miles to the north of Adelaide. By this time, the Australian Inland Mission had become a thriving concern, with ramifications all over the Commonwealth.

As 1920 came in, Flynn confronted the Board with the next phase of his scheme: "A Flying Doctor, called as occasion required by the wireless of the inland settlers, to serve a radius limited only by the flying capacities of the machine: the plane to be fitted as an air ambulance. The baby transmitting sets used

would need one powerful station which they could call when in need. At this station would be an aerodrome with a flying doctor in attendance''. That, however, was to be merely the starting-point. As the scheme developed, stations would be erected at main ports and railheads, until the whole of Australia was linked up. The Board listened sympathetically as Flynn unfolded his plan, but doubted the feasibility of its practical realization, at least for some years to come. But Flynn refused to be discouraged and, before the year was out, the Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Service was launched!

In 1924, a nursing service unique in the history of the world was started—the ''Border Sisters''. Each member of this service was assigned a district, embracing 7,500 square miles, which she operated alone for a period of two years. Her task was to carry help to any sick or injured man in that vast solitude, no matter what the hour, the distance or the weather. Far and wide, the Sister came to be known as the ''boundary rider''.

In 1926, the A.I.M. opened three more hospitals: at Alice Springs, in the centre of Australia; at Lake Grace in the southernmost corner of Western Australia, and at Marble Bar, in the north-west of the same State.

After ten years of cogitation and five years of experimentation, John Flynn at last saw a chance of his wireless dream materializing. Victory came in 1926. The baby wireless transmitting and receiving set was an accomplished fact. It could be easily carried, easily installed, easily mastered by the bush mother, and its cost was relatively insignificant.

In May 1928, a doctor and a pilot set out from Cloncurry on the first flight that inaugurated the Aerial Medical Service. Within a radius of three hundred miles, the air ambulance that year flew 20,000 miles and saved ten lives; the doctor examined 250 patients, held 50 consultations with local practitioners, and visited 26 different centres. There were no mishaps, and only once was it found impossible to answer a call owing to weather conditions.

Flynn's dream had come true: Australia in her most isolated areas girdled by nursing homes; a Flying Doctor established at a base station; and a perfected wireless apparatus to link the doctor with his patients!

N. B. — The problem of providing medical care for the inhabitants of sparsely-populated areas is one which has greatly preoccupied the national Red Cross Societies of certain countries. To Sweden belongs the honour of having initiated the first Red Cross air ambulance service. Many other Societies have since followed suit, e.g. those of the U.S.A., Canada, Norway, Great Britain, Germany, Finland, Greece, Siam and Australia.

LEAGUE HEADQUARTERS NOTES

Executive Committee

On October 30th, the Executive Committee of the League of Red Cross Societies held its second session for 1933 at the headquarters of the League. The following were present:

Marquis de Lillers (France), Colonel Draudt (Germany), Señor Conill (Cuba) and Mr. S. Yamanouchi (Japan), Vice-Chairmen.

Sir Edward Stewart (Great Britain), representing Sir Arthur Stanley.

Senator G. Giraolo (Italy).

Señor Navarro Viola (Argentina), representing General Garino.

Count Henryk Potocki (Poland).

M. Kiroff (Bulgaria), representing Dr. Daneff.

In attendance:

Mr. Ernest J. Swift (Secretary-General), M. Demachy (Treasurer-General) and M. A. Mater (Legal Adviser), representing the League Secretariat.

Present by invitation:

H.E. Prince Iyesato Tokugawa, President of the Red Cross of Japan.

M. Werner, Vice-President of the International Red Cross Committee.

Algernon Maudslay, Esq., C.B.E., of the British Red Cross Society.

In the absence of Judge Payne, the Chair was taken by the Marquis de Lillers. The following is the text of the resolutions voted:

I

The Executive Committee of the League of Red Cross Societies desires to associate itself with the feeling of irreparable loss which the death of Brigadier-General H. Bateman-Champain, Secretary General of the British Red Cross, has left among all who have been associated with him in Red Cross work. The Committee desires to express heartfelt sympathy to the British Red Cross Society and to General Champain's family and friends.

II

The Executive Committee appoints Mr. Donker Curtius, Secretary General of the Netherlands Red Cross and representative of that Society on the Board of Governors, as a member of the Executive Committee for the remainder of the term for which the late Dr. van Slooten-Azn was appointed, viz., to serve until October 1934 inclusive.

III

The report of the Secretary-General for the period April-October 1933 is approved, and the Secretary-General is authorized to proceed with plans for 1934 on the lines indicates.

IV

The Executive Committee notes with interest the Secretary-General's communication regarding the plans of the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme for international highways, and authorizes the Secretariat to co-operate with the A. I. T. and with the national Red Cross Societies of the countries concerned, with a view to the provision of adequate first-aid facilities along these highways. National Red Cross Societies are urged to co-operate to the best of their ability in advocating types of road construction conducive to greater safety.

V

The Executive Committee

notes with satisfaction the measures taken by the Secretariat, in conjunction with the International Red Cross Committee, to co-operate with the Red Cross Society of Japan in the preparations for the XVth International Red Cross Conference, and authorizes the continuance of this co-operation;

approves the draft agenda prepared for the 1934 meeting of the Board of Governors;

expresses the hope that all national Red Cross Societies will avail themselves of the facilities generously offered by the Japanese Red Cross to send fully representative delegations to Tokyo in October 1934, including delegates fully qualified to participate in the work of the special commissions.

VI

The plans for the work of the Secretariat in connexion with the international problems of the Junior Red Cross, as established in the annex to the Secretary-General's report, are approved. The success of the Study Group meeting organized at League headquarters in June, 1933, for leaders of Junior Red Cross work in different countries, and the satisfaction expressed by the participants, are noted with pleasure by the Executive Committee.

VII

The Executive Committee has taken careful note of the recommendations of the Nursing Advisory Board, and authorizes the Secretariat to take these recommendations into account, as far as circumstances permit, in the development of the nursing policy of the League.

VIII

Authorization is given to the Secretary-General to circulate to all members of the Board of Governors Mr. de Gielgud's report on the development of Red Cross organization and activity in the Far East, with such modifications as may be suggested by any member of the Executive Committee before November 1st, 1933; and to place the discussion of this report on the agenda for the 1934 meeting of the Board.

IX

The arrangements made with a view to ensuring the co-operation of the League in the establishment of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation, and in the policy and activities of the Foundation when established, are noted and approved.

The Chairman of the Board of Governors is authorized to appoint the representatives of the League to serve on the Grand Council of the Foundation.

X

The Executive Committee approves the report of the Finance Committee, and adopts the budget for 1934 as presented, providing for estimated receipts amounting to 105,500 gold dollars, and expenditures to the same amount.

The Secretary-General is instructed to make special communication to each national Society of that part of the minutes of the present meeting covering the Treasurer-General's statement regarding economies and contributions. The Executive Committee authorizes the Secretary-General to get into touch with the national Societies and relies upon him to explain to them the condition of affairs and to suggest to them the best means of meeting it.

XI

The Secretary-General is authorized to give notice of termination of the League's lease of 2, Avenue Velasquez as for December 31st, 1934, and to make fresh arrangements as from that date at a lower cost.

XII

The agreement of July 14th, 1933, between the International Red Cross bodies and the Executive Committee of the International Relief Union is hereby ratified.

The provisional arrangement for dividing between the Secretariat of the International Red Cross Committee and the Secretariat of the League the work of the Permanent and Central Services of the International Relief Union is also approved.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Executive Committee would be convened for a suitable date towards the end of April, 1934.

Death of Mr. J. B. Nanson

Mr. John B. Nanson, who joined the staff of the League in September 1932 as a member of the Publications and Propaganda Service, died at Leysin on November 8th last.

Mr. Nanson was a New Zealander who, after a brilliant school and college career in his own country, was awarded a scholarship at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where a breakdown in health unfortunately prevented him from taking the high degree to which his talents would have entitled him. He had had some journalistic experience before leaving New Zealand and when his health was apparently restored last year he accepted a post on the staff of the League, of which he soon became a most valuable member. Unhappily, in April last, he had a fresh breakdown in health and was obliged to go to a sanatorium in June.

Mr. Nanson's death deprives his colleagues of a collaborator who had won general affection and esteem, and the League of one of the most talented members of its editorial staff.

Contributions to League budget

The Lithuanian Red Cross has forwarded to the League a sum of 2,400 French francs, representing its contribution to last year's budget.

BOOK REVIEWS

Milbank Memorial Fund, report for the Year 1932. New York, 1933.

The 28th annual report of the Milbank Foundation gives a very interesting picture of the activities of this organization, which is directed by Dr. Livingston Farrand (a former Chairman of the League of Red Cross Societies), and of which Mr. John Kingsbury, a fervent advocate of hygiene and social service, is the Secretary General.

The Foundation's most outstanding achievement has undoubtedly been the organization of the successful health demonstrations in Cattaraugus County, Syracuse and Bellevue-Yorkville (a district of New York) ; it can point with all the more pride to the results of these demonstrations since they have inspired the State Health Services and the New York Municipality to adopt the health centre as basis of their administration.

The Foundation has several other remarkable initiatives to its credit, e.g. its exhaustive investigations into the cost of medical services (which formed the object of a masterly treatise published last year), the efficiency of health services, fecundity and the birth-rate, its collaboration in the surveys undertaken by the Health Organization of the League of Nations, the establishment of a health centre in a rural district in China—to mention but a few.

Since 1905, the Foundation has expended upwards of nine million dollars (a sum equal to its capital) on the advancement of social works, and has caused immense strides to be made both in the theory and practice of social welfare.

THE LEAGUE
OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES

Board of Governors

Chairman :

Honorable John Barton PAYNE, (American Red Cross).

Vice-Chairmen :

Col. P. DRAUDT, (German Red Cross).

Marquis de LILLERS, (French Red Cross).

Señor E. J. CONILL, (Cuban Red Cross).

Mr. S. YAMANOUCHI, (Japan Red Cross).

Secretary-General

Mr. Ernest J. SWIFT.

International Labour Office, The Social Year 1932. Published in Geneva.

For the third year in succession, the International Labour Office has rendered the world the service of publishing a survey of the economic situation, with sidelights on social insurance, salaries, living and working conditions of employees, their general rights, and special problems peculiar to intellectual, agricultural and maritime workers, to native labour and prison labour.

A general introduction epitomises the evolution of events, outlines the progress achieved and efforts made in different fields related to labour. Additional data is provided in the form of statistical tables.

In the Year Book will be found not only an objective analysis of facts, but a synthesis of the tendencies manifested in legislation, in industrial relationships, and in organizations for mutual aid and welfare.

The Structure of Private International Organizations, by Lyman Cromwell White. Published by George S. Ferguson Co., 15 North Seventh Street, Philadelphia, pp. 327.

Public international organizations have been described in many different works, and their structure and powers closely analysed. But, since the war, no similar treatment had been accorded to private international bodies. Mr. L. C. White's book has filled that gap.

The author examines in detail the constitution, functions, resources, membership and headquarters of thirty-seven of the most representative private international organizations, including the international bodies without lucrative objects, of which there are upwards of five hundred with an aggregate membership of a hundred millions. He notes the tendency of these institutions to converge towards certain fundamental types, the characteristics of which he defines. This book is both interesting and useful, and should go far towards bringing about greater order and method in the activities of international organizations.

Maman, dis-moi..., by Dr. Germaine Montreuil-Strauss. Illustrations by Andrée Karpelès. Published by Delachaux and Niestlé, Neuchâtel and Paris, 1933.

Everyone is agreed as to the necessity of initiating the child tactfully into the mysteries of life and procreation, but the majority of parents are at a loss to find adequate answers to the embarrassing questions fired at them by their offspring. Madame Montreuil-Strauss' book solves this predicament for them in the most engaging of manners, for it is designed specially for the instruction of the child in sex matters. Examples are taken from nature —the butterfly, the goldfish, the hen, the she-cat— ending up with the human mother. Sixteen pictures of daily life, accompanied by a few lines of comment, give a pure and concise idea of a subject which no educator has the right to elude.

This publication is absolutely unique in character and worthy of the highest commendation. Its teaching is obviously elementary, but it is always the first lesson which is the most difficult and the most important in matters of this kind.

Le Gérant : B. DE ROUGÉ. IMP. UNION, 13, RUE MÉCHAIN, PARIS.